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Fremont Appoints New Police Chief

Fremont, CA – April 8, 2013 – Fremont City Manager Fred Diaz announced the appointment of Richard Lucero as Police Chief for the City of Fremont. Lucero has been serving as Interim Police Chief since Dec. 31, 2012, when Fremont Police Chief Craig Steckler retired. Lucero's career with the Fremont Police Department began in April 1987.

Chief Lucero is responsible for all aspects of the Fremont Police Department, including emergency services provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As part of overall management of the department, the Chief of Police has direct oversight of the Offices of Business Services, Professional Standards and Accountability, Special Investigations, and the Media Relations/PIO function. The Fremont Police Department has 286 full time employees of which 185 are sworn positions. The Fremont Police Department is a full service law enforcement agency and also provides some services by contract to other agencies.

Chief Lucero has been a police officer for 26 years, serving his entire career with Fremont. His assignments have included working Patrol, S.W.A.T., Narcotics, Internal Affairs, and Street Crimes. He has served as the commander of both major divisions within the Fremont Police Department: the Patrol Division and the Special Operations and Investigations Division.

"I am pleased to appoint Richard Lucero as Fremont's Police Chief," said City Manager Fred Diaz. "Rich has worked his way up through the ranks of the Fremont Police Department and has demonstrated his keen leadership skills while serving the Fremont community. He is sincere, intelligent, and approachable and will serve the Fremont Police Department and our City with dedication and skill."

"The Fremont Police Department is an exceptional police agency serving a community with a great deal of opportunity. I am proud of my affiliation with the department," said Police Chief Richard Lucero. "I am extraordinarily grateful for this opportunity."

Chief Lucero is a graduate of POST Command College, Class 40, and a lifetime member of the California Narcotic Officers' Association. He is also a graduate of San Jose State University and Santa Clara University School of Law. He received the CALI Excellence for the Future Award in the study of local government law and is a member of the State Bar of California. Chief Lucero is a volunteer with Officers Give Hope, a law enforcement-oriented nonprofit organization dedicated to having peace officers join the National Marrow Donor Registry. In addition, he is the First Vice President of the California Peace Officers' Association. Most of Chief Lucero's time away from the department is dedicated to his family.

Chief Lucero has had many opportunities to work with the community to address significant issues and has valued that interaction. He welcomes direct contact from members of the community. He can be reached at (510) 790-6811 or by email at rlucero@fremont.gov.

Details for a badge-pinning ceremony are forthcoming.